UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE **OFFICIAL WARNING** **VIOLATION OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS**	**CASE NUMBER:** OH120054-AC **VIOLATOR:** Robert L. Ratliff **ADDRESS** (*Street, City, State, ZIP Code*): Hazel Green, KY 41332

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has evidence that on or about the date(s) listed below, you or your organization committed the following violation(s) of Federal Regulations:

Date of Violation: January 16 and February 4, 2012

9 C.F.R. § 2.1(a)(3)(iv) Requirements and application.
(a)(3) The following persons are exempt from the licensing requirements under section 2 or section 3 of the Act:
(iv) Any person who sells fewer than 25 dogs and/or cats per year, which were born and raised on his or her premises, for research, teaching, or testing purposes or to any research facility and is not otherwise required to obtain a license. This exemption does not extend to any person residing in a household that collectively sells 25 or more dogs and/or cats, regardless of ownership, nor to any person acting in concert with others where they collectively sell 25 or more dogs and/or cats, regardless of ownership. The sale of any dog or cat not born and raised on the premises for research purposes requires a license;

You engaged in regulated activities without a USDA license as required. On the above dates, you did knowingly and intentionally sell two dogs to a licensed USDA random source dealer, for research purposes, purporting these animals to have been born on your premises when in fact you knew they had not.

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) created federal regulations to ensure the welfare of animals and help prevent the spread of animal and plant pests and diseases. Since violations of the regulations can have serious and costly impacts that are detrimental to the public interest, APHIS is providing you with an Official Warning for the violation(s) described above. Any further violation of these federal regulations may result in the assessment of a civil penalty, criminal prosecution, or other sanctions. If you have any questions concerning this Official Warning or violation(s), please contact the APHIS official listed in this notice.

APHIS OFFICIAL (*Name*): Robert J. Huttenlocker	**OFFICE ADDRESS:** 4700 River Road, Unit 85 Riverdale, MD 20737	
APHIS OFFICIAL (*Title*): Director, Investigative and Enforcement Services	**DATE ISSUED:** 4/23/2013	**TELEPHONE NUMBER:** (301) 851-2948